

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 242004 TOSEC 280033

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DRAFTED BY AF:TWSEELYE:WLK

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S - MR. PASSAGE

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 242004 TOSEC 280033

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK, SF

SUBJECT: BRITISH ANNOUNCEMENT RE OPENING OF RHODESIAN
NEGOTIATIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT SCHEDULED TO BE
MADE BY FOREIGN OFFICE IN LONDON AT 11:30 A.M. WASHINGTON
TIME.

2. "THE OBJECTIVE OF MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA WITHIN
TWO YEARS HAS NOW BEEN ACCEPTED BY ALL PARTIES. THIS IS
A MAJOR ADVANCE WHICH WE MUST RAPIDLY CONSOLIDATE. IN
RESPONSE TO THE REQUESTS OF ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED, I
HAVE DECIDED THAT HMG SHOULD AT ONCE CONVENE A CONFERENCE
TO DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT IN
RHODESIA AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS. I PROPOSE THAT THE
MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS TIME ANYWHERE
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA ACCEPTABLE TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED.
I INVITE THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO INFORM ME AT ONCE WHO
THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE. I AM PREPARED TO PROVIDE
A BRITISH CHAIRMAN FOR THE CONFERENCE THOUGH, OF COURSE,
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PAGE 02 STATE 242004 TOSEC 280033

THE MAIN ONUS FOR REACHING AGREEMENT ON AN INTERIM GOVERN-

MENT WILL REST WITH THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED.
HMG WILL DO ALL IT CAN TO HELP BUT A PEACEFUL EVOLUTION
TO MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA MUST DEPEND ON AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THOSE ON THE SPOT.

3. "BOTH MR. ROWLANDS AND DR. KISSINGER'S REPRESENTATIVE,
MR. SCHAUFEELE, ARE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THEY WILL BE DIS-
CUSSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE WITH
AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN LEADERS. "

ROBINSON

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